REMARKS:

Upon entry of the present Amendment-D, the claims pending in the present application are claims 1, 3, 5-16, and 20-21, of which claims 1 and 20 are independent. Claims 1, 3 and 20 have been amended by the present Amendment-D. Claims 2, 4 and 17-19 have been canceled by the present Amendment-D without abandonment or dedication of the subject matter thereof.

Response to Office Action

The above-identified Office Action has been reviewed, the references carefully considered, and the Examiner's comments carefully weighed. In view thereof, the present Amendment-D is submitted.

It is contended that by the present Amendment-D, all bases of rejection set forth in the Office Action have been traversed and overcome. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Amendments Presented

***In the Claims*:** Independent claims 1 and 20 have been amended to further define aspects of applicant's invention. Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the IC tag is integrated with the element by insert forming, that the meter unit has high sealing ability, that the meter unit comprises a meter panel on which a speedometer is arranged, and that the IC tag is housed within the meter unit on a surface of the meter panel).

Further, claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 1, and to specify that that the meter panel is formed of a material having transmissivity to electromagnetic waves, and the IC tag is installed on a back surface of the meter panel.

Further, claim 20 has been amended to specify that the IC tag may be disposed in the seat of a motorcycle, and to specify that the IC tag and the database are updated continuously and in synchronization with each other, and that the database further comprises a control part, the control part operable to manage the tag information on the IC tag of each motorcycle.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the amendments put forth above are fully supported by the specification, do not add any new matter to the specification, and are patentably distinct over the applied references. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration of the above amendments.

Claim Objection

At page 2, item 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 3 because of a minor informality, i.e., claim 3 depends from canceled claim 2.

Applicant's Response:

As stated above, applicant has amended claim 3 herein to correctly depend from claim 1. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection of record.

Claim Rejection – 35 USC 103

At page 2, item 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3, 5-16, 20 and 21 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tamai in view of Vock et al. or Didomenico et al. The Examiner takes the position that the combination of Tamai, Vock and Didomenico disclose the features of the claimed invention. The Examiner concedes that Tamai does not specify a location of the IC tag on the motorcycle, however, but takes the position that in her view, Vock teaches that an IC tag can be attached to any object.

Applicant's Response:

As stated above applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 20 herein. Upon careful consideration and in light of the above amendments, applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection and submits that all of the pending claims are patentably distinguished over the applied references, because the references do not teach or suggest the features claimed in the present application.

The Standard for Obviousness

The U.S. Supreme Court has recently held, "[A] patent composed of several elements is not proved obvious merely by demonstrating that each element was, independently, known in the prior art. . . . Inventions usually rely upon building blocks long since uncovered, and claimed discoveries almost necessarily will be combinations of what, in some sense, is already known. ***KSR v. Teleflex,*** 127 S. Ct. 1727, 1740-41, 82 USPQ2d 1385, 1396 (S.Ct.2007).

In this regard, the Examiner must provide a valid reason why he or she feels that it would be obvious to combine the elements of the cited references in the fashion claimed by applicant. "Rejections on obviousness grounds cannot be sustained by mere conclusory statements; instead, there must be some articulated reasoning with some rational underpinning to support the legal conclusion of obviousness." (***In re Kahn***, 441 F. 3d 977, 988 (CA Fed. 2006) cited with approval in ***KSR v. Teleflex,*** *supra.*)

The U.S. Supreme Court has also stated that a factfinder should be aware of the distortion caused by hindsight bias and must be cautious of arguments reliant upon ex post reasoning. See ***Graham***, 383 U. S., at 36 (warning against a "temptation to read into the prior art the teachings of the invention in issue" and instructing courts to "guard against slipping into the use of hindsight". ***KSR v. Teleflex,*** *supra.*

Relative to claim 1, upon careful consideration of the Examiner's rejection and the applied references applicant respectfully traverses such rejection because the combination of the references still fails to disclose all of the features of the claimed invention, namely the IC tag being housed in the meter unit, and further because the Examiner's rejection is based primarily on the Examiner's use of impermissible hindsight (gained from the applicant's own disclosure) rather than from any teaching that can be fairly gleaned from the references themselves.

Additionally, applicant submits that the Examiner's proffered hypothetical combination of the applied references is expressly contradictory to a beneficial effect achieved by the present invention, i.e., eliminating the requirement of incorporating an additional/separate housing to encapsulate the IC tag in order to provide a high sealing ability.

Applicant submits that although the Examiner is correct in stating that Vock discloses a tag can be placed behind the bicycle seat and that the tag is housed within a housing made of urethane plastic, applicant submits that the system disclosed by Vock contradicts one of the beneficial effects achieved by the present invention, i.e., eliminating the requirement of incorporating an additional/separate housing to encapsulate the IC tag in order to provide a high sealing ability.

For example, Vock teaches a housing 372 with a top element 374, a bottom element 376 and o-rings 378 such that when these features of the housing 372 are combined a watertight seal is formed within the housing 372 wherein within the internal cavity a sensor/electronics can be disposed therein [0272]. Further, Vock provides that in order to attach the housing 372 to a vehicle an attachment bracket 390 is included and the bracket has a correspondingly flat face so that the bracket 390 is efficiently bonded, glued, screwed, or otherwise attached to a surface.

As noted above, given the fact that Vock discloses the need for an additional housing 372

to house a tag to a vehicle, this contradicts a beneficial effect achieved by the present invention of eliminating the requirement of incorporating an additional housing. The present invention discloses that because the IC tag is housed in a meter unit having a high sealing ability, and therefore, another case having a high sealing ability will not be needed.

Further, regarding Didomenico, although the Examiner is correct in stating that Didomenico teaches that a transponder tag can be affixed to a vehicle, Didomenico teaches that the transponder may be located within a tag that is placed within the vehicle in any one of a number of specified locations (col. 9, lines 11-16). Didomenico fails to expressly teach or even suggest that the IC tag can be housed in the meter unit as presently claimed, he merely provides that the tag can be placed within the vehicle's passenger or engine compartment.

Thus, for the Examiner to assert that Didomenico teaches an IC tag being housed in the meter unit is based on the Examiner's use of impermissible hindsight gained from the applicant's own disclosure rather than from any teaching within Didomenico because Didomenico fails to disclose such feature.

Additionally, applicant submits that the combination of the references still fails to teach an invention that can achieve the objective and effects of the present invention of providing an IC tag enclosed and disposed on a back surface of a resin meter unit of a motorcycle such that resin meter unit does not hinder the transmissivity of the electromagnetic waves transmitted by the IC tag and such that the resin meter unit provides a highly sealed housing to protect and shield the IC tag from environmental conditions such as rain, dirt, wind, etc. Rather, Vock discloses a movement monitoring device that can provide quantified minute by minute, second by second details of the movement of a product/person by adhering the movement monitoring device to the person. Didomenico provides a remote sensing device to detect emissions of

multiple vehicles on a multi-lane highway such that the device can detect the emissions of the individual vehicle.

Relative to claim 3, applicant respectfully traverses such rejection and disagrees with the Examiner's assertion that Didomenico teaches a meter panel formed of a material having transmissivity to electromagnetic waves, the IC tag being installed on a back surface of the meter panel for substantially the same reasons provided above.

Relative to claim 20, applicant respectfully traverses such rejection for the same reasons provided above and further because the combination of the applied references still fail to disclose a terminal device a database connected to the host server and managing tag information on an IC tag of each motorcycle by a motorcycle ID, a terminal comprising a device for wirelessly communicating with and reading the motorcycle ID from an IC tag provided on the motorcycle, a device for transmitting the motorcycle ID and an authorized access ID, to the host server, a device for receiving tag information transmitted from the host server in response to the motorcycle ID, and a host server comprising a device for searching the database by the motorcycle ID received from the terminal as a search key to selectively extract tag information corresponding to the motorcycle ID, as allowed by the authorized access ID.

For example, applicant submits that Tamai discloses that the identification code storing unit 208 of the IC chip unit 200 stores an identification code that uniquely identifies the radio IC tag 80. The identification code is made up of a manufacturer identification code, a type code and a production number. The manufacturer identification code is used to identify the manufacturer of the radio IC tag 80, the type code is used to identify the specification and type of radio IC tag 80, out of different specifications and types of radio IC tags and the production number is a value which is set uniquely for each manufacturer and type. (col. 17, lines 38-48). Tamai fails to

disclose the IC tag having written thereon a motorcycle ID wherein the radio IC tag uniquely identifies the specific motorcycle.

Moreover, Tamai also fails to disclose that his system includes a host server including a device for searching the database by the motorcycle ID received from the terminal as a search key to selectively extract tag information corresponding to the motorcycle ID, as allowed by the authorized access ID. Rather, Tamai discloses a system involving a complicated series of outputting and acquiring an identification code for a stage area, access identifiers for the stage areas that are compared with stored stage identifier access codes, generating 1st, 2nd and 3rd authenticators and encrypting the authenticators by an encryption key and matching the authenticators in order to grant access to the stage area. The system of Tamai does not teach or even suggest a host computer that searches its database by a motorcycle ID in order to extract specific information regarding that particular motorcycle.

Notwithstanding the above, applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 20 have been amended to expedite the prosecution of the present application and further patentably define the claimed invention over the applied references. Specifically, applicant notes that claim 1 has been amended to specify that the IC tag is integrated with the element by insert forming, that the meter unit has high sealing ability, that the meter unit comprises a meter panel on which a speedometer is arranged, and that the IC tag is housed within the meter unit on a surface of the meter panel). Further, claim 20 has been amended to specify that the IC tag may be disposed in the seat of a motorcycle, and to specify that the IC tag and the database are updated continuously and in synchronization with each other, and that the database further comprises a control part, the control part operable to manage the tag information on the IC tag of each motorcycle.

Applicant respectfully submits that amended claims 1 and 20 further describe the

advantageous and patentably distinguishable characteristics of the present invention which are not taught, suggested or rendered obvious by the applied references.

Based on the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claims 1, 3, 5-16, 20 and 21 under 35 USC §103(a) based on Tamai (US 7,031,946) in view of Vock et al. (US 2003/0163287) or Didomenico et al. (US 7,164,132) has been overcome. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of record, and allowance of the pending claims.

Other Matters

The additional reference cited by the Examiner included with the Office Action – US Patent 6,959,259 to Vock et al. has been considered by applicant, but this additional reference fails to overcome the deficiencies of Tamai, Vock et al. and Didomenico et al. for the same reasons discussed above.

Conclusion

Based on all of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that all of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action are overcome, and that as presently amended, all of the pending claims are believed to be allowable over all of the references of record, whether considered singly or in combination. Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of record, and allowance of the pending claims.

The application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner is not fully convinced of the allowability of all of claims now in the

application, or feels that the prosecution of the application could be advanced by a telephone discussion, applicant respectfully requests that he telephonically contact applicant's undersigned representative to expeditiously resolve any issues remaining in the prosecution of the application.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

/ /

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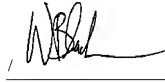

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